

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 IOE-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-11 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 OIC-04 OMB-01 AID-20 ACDA-19

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2620

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOCI

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION--REQUEST BY WIDOW OF SALVADOR
ALLENDE TO SPEAK BEFORE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC)

1. AT INFORMAL MEETING OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS (WEOS),
DR. FELIX ERMACORA, CHAIRMAN OF 30 TH SESSION OF HRC WHICH
CONVENED FEB 4, REPORTED THAT SOVIET-ORIENTED WOMEN'S
INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION (WIDF) HAD REQUESTED
THAT HORTENSIA BUSSI DE ALLENDE, WIDOW OF SALVADOR ALLENDE,
BE PERMITTED TO SPEAK BEFORE HRC. SECRETARIAT POSITION,
AS EXPLAINED BY ERMACORA, IS THAT MRS. ALLENDE CANNOT
SPEAK BEFORE HRC AS INDIVIDUAL BUT CAN SPEAK IF INVITED
AS REP OF RECOGNIZED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
(NGO). (NOTE: WIDF IS SO RECOGNIZED.)

2. AFTER ERMACORA SPOKE HEADS OF UK, FRANCE, ITALY AND
NETHERLANDS DELS EXPRESSED THEMSELVES AS BEING GENERALLY
RECEPTIVE TO IDEA, BUT BELIEVED THAT SHE SHOULD SPEAK NOT
AS REP OF SOVIET PROPAGANDA ORGAN BUT AS REP OF BONA FIDE
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HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION OR GROUP OF ORGANIZATIONS AND

SPECIFICALLY THOSE WHICH HAD UNDERTAKEN FIRST-HAND INVESTIGATION OF SITUATION IN CHILE. SUCH ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN.

3. COMMENT. IF MRS. ALLENDE HAS OR CAN OBTAIN RECOGNIZED NGO SPONSOR, THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO HEAR HER OUT SINCE STATEMENTS BY NGO'S ARE PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE RULES OF UN COMMISSIONS. NOR WILL SUCH STATEMENT BE PRECEDENT-MAKING SINCE MANY STATEMENTS BY NGO REPS COMMENTING ON SITUATIONS IN PARTICULAR COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN MADE BEFORE HRC IN PAST YEARS. US DEL FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT NGO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ALSO INTENDS MAKE STATEMENT ON CHILE. IN LIGHT OF THIS BACKGROUND, US DEL BELIEVES IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO ATTEMPT TO FORESTALL OR PREVENT NGO REPS FROM ADDRESSING HRC ON SITUATION IN CHILE.
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